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SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Thursday, 23 December 1999

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-fourth session

88th plenary meeting

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s [99 (f)]

(a) Report of the Second Committee (A/54/587/Add.6)

(b) Report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/693)

The General Assembly adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 9 of its report (A/54/587/Add.6) (resolution 54/235).

The General Assembly adopted the draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 10 of the same report.

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of sub-item (f) of agenda item 99.

The General Assembly concluded its consideration of all the reports of the Second Committee before it.

Reports of the Fifth Committee

The Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee introduced the reports of the Committee on agenda items 117, 120, 123, 125, 126, 142, 143, 150 and 172, 151, 163, 164, 166, 173, 12, 119, 124, 121 and 118.

Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors: report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/506/Add.1) [117]

The General Assembly adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report (A/54/506/Add.1) (resolution 54/13 B).

The Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 117.

Programme planning: report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/676) [120]

The General Assembly adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 8 of its report (A/54/676) (resolution 54/236).

The Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 120.

Joint Inspection Unit: report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/507/Add.1) [123]

The General Assembly adopted the draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report (A/54/507/Add.1).

The Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 123.

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations: report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/685) [125]

The General Assembly adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 9 of its report (A/54/685) (resolution 54/237 A to C).

The General Assembly adopted draft decisions I and II recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 10 of the same report.

The Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 125.

United Nations common system: report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/677) [126]

The General Assembly adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report (A/54/677) (resolution 54/238).

The Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 126.

Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991: report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/678) [142]

The General Assembly adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report (A/54/678) (resolution 54/239).

The Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 142.

Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994: report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/679) [143]

The General Assembly adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report (A/54/679) (resolution 54/240).

The representative of Finland (on behalf of the European Union) made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote.

The Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 143.

Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone; Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone: report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/686) [150 and 172]

The General Assembly adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report (A/54/686) (resolution 54/241).

The Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda items 150 and 172.

Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/684) [151]

The General Assembly adopted draft resolutions I and II recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 13 of its report (A/54/684) (resolutions 54/242 and 54/243).

The Assembly adopted draft decisions I to IV recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 14 of the same report.

The Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 151.

Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 48/218 B: report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/673) [163]

The General Assembly adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report (A/54/673) (resolution 54/244).

The Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 163.

Human resources management: report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/680) [164]

The General Assembly adopted the draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report (A/54/680).

The Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 164.

Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo: report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/674) [166]

The General Assembly adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report (A/54/674) (resolution 54/245).

The Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 166.

Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor: report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/687) [173]

The General Assembly adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report (A/54/687) (resolution 54/246).

The Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 173.

Report of the Economic and Social Council: report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/668) [12]

The General Assembly adopted the draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 4 of its report (A/54/668).

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of those chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council which were allocated to the Fifth Committee.

Programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999: report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/508/Add.1) [119]

The General Assembly adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report (A/54/508/Add.1) (resolution 54/247).

The Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 119.

Pattern of conferences: report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/690) [124]

The General Assembly adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report (A/54/690) (resolution 54/248 A to E).

The Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 124.

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001: report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/691) [121]

The representative of the United States made a statement in explanation of vote.

The General Assembly adopted draft resolutions I to V recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 5 of its report (A/54/691) (resolutions 54/249, 54/250, 54/251, 54/252 and 54/253).

Statements in explanation of vote were made by Finland (on behalf of the European Union), Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Canada, Cameroon (on behalf of the African Group) and the Philippines.

The Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 121.

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations: report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/511/Add.1) [118]

The General Assembly adopted draft decisions I and II recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report (A/54/511/Add.1).

The Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 118.

Report of the Economic and Social Council (A/54/3 and Add.1) [12]

The General Assembly took note of the chapters and sections of the report of the Economic and Social Council assigned to plenary meetings.

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of those chapters and sections of the report of the Economic and Social Council assigned to plenary meetings.

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of agenda item 12.

Programme of work

The General Assembly decided to retain the following items on the agenda of the fifty-fourth session: 10, 11, 15, 17, 20, 22, 37, 38, 42 to 44, 46 to 50, 59 to 61, 63, 90, 97, 99, 101, 110, 117 to 151, 160, 163, 164, 166, 169, 170, 172 and 173.

Statement by the President

The President made a statement.

Committees

FIFTH COMMITTEE — 50th meeting

Programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

Final budget appropriations for the biennium 1998-1999 and final income estimates for the biennium 1998-1999

The representative of Pakistan, Vice-Chairman of the Committee and coordinator of informal consultations on this question, introduced draft resolution A/C.5/54/L.39.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft resolution.

The Committee thus concluded this stage of its consideration of this agenda item.

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 [121]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.73

The Committee resumed its consideration of the statement submitted by the Secretary-General on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.73 contained in document A/C.5/54/43 and the letter dated 16 December 1999, from the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee (A/C.5/54/44).

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/C.5/54/L.73, an additional requirement of $646,400 would arise in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001, under section 11A, Trade and development ($616,400), and under section 26, Public information, ($30,000). These requirements would represent a charge against the

contingency fund and would be considered in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.

The Committee also recalled General Assembly resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990.

The Committee also stated that the convening in New York, of the intergovernmental preparatory committee of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, away from its established headquarters, would constitute an exemption to Section I, paragraph 4, of resolution 40/243.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this question.

Revised estimates arising out of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1999

The Committee resumed its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates arising from resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council (A/54/443 and Add.1) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/54/7/Add.2).

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided, without a vote, to take note of the reports of the Secretary-General (A/54/443 and Add.1).

The representative of Cuba made a statement.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this question.

Revised estimates under sections 3, Political affairs; 5 Peacekeeping operations and special missions

The Committee resumed its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates under section 3, Political affairs and 5, Peacekeeping operations (A/C.5/54/40) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/54/7/Add.11).

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided, without a vote, to take note of the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/54/40) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/54/7/Add.11) and approved a charge of total requirements of $3,755,800 against the provision for special political missions and concurred with the recommendation in A/C.5/54/40.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this question.

Report of the Secretary-General on the utilization of the provision for special political missions under section 3, Political affairs

The Chairman of the Committee drew the attention of the Committee to the report of the Secretary-General on the utilization of the provision for special political missions under section 3, Political affairs (A/C.5/54/45).

The Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions orally introduced the related report of that Committee.

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided, without a vote, to take note of the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/54/45) on the utilization of the provision for special political missions under section 3, Political affairs.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this question.

Report of the Secretary-General on the contingency fund: consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates

The Chairman of the Committee drew the attention of the Committee to the report of the Secretary-General on the contingency fund: consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates (A/C.5/54/46).

The Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions orally presented the related report of that Committee.

The representative of Mexico spoke on a point of information.

The Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions made a statement.

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the contingency fund: consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates (A/C.5/54/46) and to note that a balance of $16,362,700 would remain in the contingency fund.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this question.

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 [121]

(a) Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001

The representative of Uganda, coordinator of informal consultations on this item, introduced and orally corrected draft resolution A/C.5/54/L.35.

Statements were made by the representatives of Guyana, Japan and the United States.

The representative of Egypt made a statement.

The Director of the Budget Division made a statement regarding section 26, Public information.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft resolution as orally revised.

The representative of the United Republic of Tanzania (on behalf of the East African Community) made a statement.

(b) Draft report of the Fifth Committee

The Chairman drew the attention of the Committee and orally corrected the draft report and draft resolutions contained in document A/C.5/54/L.36 (Parts I and II) submitted by the Secretariat, on behalf of the Rapporteur of the Committee, Mr. Jan Piotr Jaremczuk (Poland).

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft report and the draft resolutions contained therein as orally revised.

The Committee thus concluded at this stage its consideration of this agenda item.

Pattern of Conferences [124]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

The representative of Tunisia, coordinator of informal consultations on this item, introduced and orally corrected draft resolution A/C.5/54/L.19.

Following a statement by the representative of Algeria, the Controller replied to a question raised.

The representative of Algeria then orally proposed an amendment to the draft resolution.

The representatives of Cameroon, the Syrian Arab Republic, Kenya, the Sudan, Namibia, Ethiopia and Mali supported the amendment proposed to the draft resolution.

The representative of the United States spoke on a point of clarification.

The representative of Finland (on behalf of the European Union) made a statement.

The Director of the Budget Division replied to questions raised

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft resolution as orally revised and amended.

The Committee thus concluded this stage of its consideration of this agenda.

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations [118]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

(a) Action taken on certain items

The Chairman introduced draft decision A/C.5/54/L.37.

Statements were made by the representatives of Bangladesh, New Zealand (on behalf of Canada, Australia, New Zealand and also on behalf of the Group of South Pacific States), the Republic of Korea, the Philippines, Norway, the United States and Finland (on behalf of the European Union).

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft decision (A/C.5/54/L.37).

(b) Biennial programme of work of the Fifth Committee for 2000-2001

The Chairman introduced draft decision A/C.5/54/L.38 and informed the Committee that the first part of the resumed fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly would be held from 13-31 March 2000 and the second part from 8 May to 2 June 2000.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft decision.

The Committee thus concluded this stage of its consideration of this agenda item.

Other matters

Statements were made by the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic and Kuwait regarding the closure of the cafeteria.

Closure of the work of the Fifth Committee during the main part of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly

Statements were made by the representatives of Barbados (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean States), Cameroon (on behalf of the African States), the Czech Republic (on behalf of the Eastern European States), the United States, Luxembourg (on behalf of the Western European and Other States), Bangladesh (on behalf of the Asian States), the Sudan (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Israel, Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) and Uganda.

The Chairman made a statement and declared the work of the Fifth Committee during the main part of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly concluded.

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